

OUR MISSION: *To advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.*

Dec2016/Jan2017

## **MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT**

It is hard to believe that 2016 is almost over! Our Branch has had an incredibly busy year and I am sure next year will be the same. Not only will we have many Branch events, but our State is celebrating its 75<sup>th</sup> Year at the Convention on April 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> in Easton, and National will have its Convention in Wash. DC from June 14-17<sup>th</sup>.

In the New Year, we will be awarding our scholarships to Howard Community College students. We work very hard raising money for these scholarships, and I hope you will continue your generous support at the Fashion Show on April 29<sup>th</sup>.

We will also be continuing our support of STEM education for girls through participating in Girl Power in March and the STEMFestival in June. Our Education VP and her committee are already at work planning these events.

Advocacy will continue working with our State Legislature on expanding child support to ensure college students get the help they deserve. We also plan a salary negotiation seminar StartSmart in conjunction with HCC.

Diversity is working on events to hold in the upcoming year that center around African-American heritage.

Our Social VP makes sure we have everything we need for our potlucks and branch meetings. Our Program VP ensures we have interesting and educational programs at our meetings. Our membership VP welcomes new members and holds prospective member meetings. And our Finance VP collects and distributes our money and keeps us advised of our financial position each month.

**All of our activities take dedicated volunteers – please say yes next time you are asked to be an officer or committee member!**

**Mark your calendars for the Holiday Party on Sunday, December 4, 2016 from 2-5pm.**

This year's party will be held at Rockburn, the beautiful Elkridge historic home of our member Barbara Parker. Guests are welcome! Please see the flyer and map attached with this newsletter email.

I wish you all a wonderful holiday season and a very Happy New Year!

*Bea Dane, President*

## **SAVE THE DATES!!**

**Sunday – December 4<sup>th</sup>.** Holiday Party - member Barbara Parker's historic home in Elkridge  
**Saturday, January 7<sup>th</sup>.** League of Women Voters Legislative Luncheon – First Lutheran Church, EC  
**Sunday, January 29<sup>th</sup>.** Women's Legislative Briefing – Rockville, MD  
**Saturday, February 11<sup>th</sup>.** "Book Bash" Luncheon Meeting. Guest speaker – Roberta Rood  
**Thursday, March 16<sup>th</sup>** Branch Meeting – EC Sr Center. Speaker - author or poet TBD  
**Saturday, April 8<sup>th</sup>** Maryland State 75<sup>th</sup> Convention – Easton, MD  
**Thursday, April 13<sup>th</sup>** Branch Meeting and Voting for Officers – EC Sr Center – Panel Discussion  
**Saturday, April 29<sup>th</sup>** Fashion Show and Fundraiser  
**Thursday – Saturday June 14-17** National Convention - Washington, DC  
**Thursday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>** Salad Supper and Officer Installation – EC Sr Center

## Upcoming Events & Membership News

### Great Decisions

**Great Decisions is a foreign policy discussion program.** Two separate groups meet in a member's home: **Evening Group** on the 3rd Monday of the month from 7:00 – 9:00 PM; **Daytime Group** on the 4th Tuesday of the month from 1:00 - 3 PM. Before the meeting, participants read material about the month's topic in the Great Decisions Briefing Booklet, published by the Foreign Policy Association. The meeting begins with viewing a DVD presentation on the subject; discussion is based on questions published in the booklet.

#### **EVENING GROUP**

**January meeting** - Monday, January 16th, at 7:00 PM  
Host: [Lee Ann Hartman](#) Topic #1 – *The Future of Europe*

#### **DAYTIME GROUP**

**January meeting** - Tuesday, January 24th, at 1:00 PM  
Host: Bea Dane Topic #1, *The Future of Europe*

#### **There is no meeting in December**

**The 2017 Briefing Booklet will be available for delivery in January** in time for both meetings scheduled in January. Briefing Books for members who requested them were ordered in October. If you did not order a book and wish to have one, you can order the book directly from the Foreign Policy Association, [www.fpa.org/great-decisions](http://www.fpa.org/great-decisions)  
**Evening Group Contact:** Diane Roca [dbroca@comcast.net](mailto:dbroca@comcast.net) or 410-964-3523  
**Daytime Group Contact:** Kathy Schofield [rbrownhouse@msn.com](mailto:rbrownhouse@msn.com) or 443-691-0131

### Adventures in Dining

Adventures in Dining will be meeting on Dec 6<sup>th</sup> at Kings Contrivance. **Reservations required** [@carolmcauliffe@verizon.net](mailto:carolmcauliffe@verizon.net). Jan 3<sup>rd</sup>, location TBD. An email will be sent each month for reservations.  
*Carol Phelps, Chair*

### Lunch Bunch

The Lunch Bunch will meet on Thursday, Dec 1st and Dec 29th, at 11:30 am in Nordstrom's Cafe at Columbia Mall. No reservations are required and all members are welcome! Bring a friend and introduce her to AAUW.  
*Gail Rust, Chair, Lunch Bunch*

### Movies and Handcrafters

Members meet on an ad-hoc basis to have lunch and attend a movie, or do crafts. If you wish to be on the email list, please contact Anne Tarantino at [annefox@verizon.net](mailto:annefox@verizon.net)

### Bridge Group

Meets on the first Wednesday of each month. If you have questions or would like to be a part of the group, email Karen Tang at, [ktang54@verizon.net](mailto:ktang54@verizon.net) or Laura Wilson at, [laurawilson3033@aol.com](mailto:laurawilson3033@aol.com).

### Membership

- **Welcome to new member, Fran Jablon!** Fran has an MA from Frostburg State Univ.
- **INVITE A FRIEND TO THE HOLIDAY PARTY ON DEC 4<sup>TH</sup>** - this is a great opportunity for your friend to meet other AAUW members
- [aauihowardcounty@gmail.com](mailto:aauihowardcounty@gmail.com) is the email address for a friend or new acquaintance who is interested in learning about membership in our branch.
- Please renew your membership if you have not already done so. Send a check for \$72 made payable to AAUW Howard County to Carol Phelps, Treasurer, AAUW HC, 6680 Star Path, Columbia, MD, 21045
- Members not renewing by Nov 30<sup>th</sup> will be dropped from the National and Howard County membership roster
- Request a Membership Participation Questionnaire - email [aauihowardcounty@gmail.com](mailto:aauihowardcounty@gmail.com).

### Reader's Group

The Reader's Group meets every other month starting in January on the third Thursday at 11AM at the East Columbia Sr Center (attached to the East Col Library). Upcoming books to be discussed: January 19<sup>th</sup> – Deep South by Paul Theroux; March 16<sup>th</sup> – Wilde Lake by Laura Lippman; May 11<sup>th</sup> – planning session for the next year.

If you are interested in joining the Reader's Group, please contact Roberta Rood at [robertarood@earthlink.net](mailto:robertarood@earthlink.net) to be added to the e-mail list.

## Upcoming Programs

**January 2017:** Instead of an evening Branch meeting in January, we join with the League of Women Voters for their annual Legislative Luncheon. In 2017 it will be held on Saturday, January 7<sup>th</sup> at 11AM at the First Lutheran Church, 3604 Chatham Road, Ellicott City. This is a great, informal opportunity to talk with our newly elected officials. The cost is \$10 if you do not bring a dish to share. Food assignments, if you choose to bring a dish, which much serve at least 8 are as follows: A-F: Side Dish or Vegetable; G-M – Dessert; N-Z: Main Dish.

**If you wish to attend, please RSVP by Jan 3rd to Bea Dane ([bea\\_dane@comcast.net](mailto:bea_dane@comcast.net)) or 410-299-8403 and I will notify LWV.** I will also arrive early and reserve tables for our group.

**February 2017:** On Saturday, February 11<sup>th</sup>, we will meet at Union Jack's Restaurant in Columbia for our annual "Book Bash". Roberta Rood will be our guest speaker, and I am sure we will all be greatly entertained as we always are! More details – time, menu, cost, etc. – will be sent in January.

**March 2017:** On March 16<sup>th</sup>, we return to an evening Branch meeting back at the Ellicott City Sr Center. The Diversity Committee is working on obtaining an author or poet as our guest speaker.

**April 2017:** On April 13<sup>th</sup>, we again will have an evening Branch meeting at the Ellicott City Sr Center. Current plans are to have the Hammond High DIAMONDS group present a panel discussion. Prior to the program, we will also vote for our officers for 2017-18.

**May 2017:** No Branch meeting

**June 2017:** June 22<sup>nd</sup> we will meet at EC Sr Center for our Salad Supper, meet our Scholarship winners, and install our new officers.

We do not have Branch meetings over the summer, but our new Program year starts in September with a Potluck at Historic Oakland Manor on September 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Do you have an idea for a branch meeting program** or a guest speaker you would like us to invite? Please contact our Program VP, Dana Lowe with your ideas.

## FUNDRAISING/PHILANTHROPY

Dec 17<sup>th</sup> – Indoor Flea Market at Hammond High School – 8am to noon. We are staffing a table to sell items – proceeds go toward our scholarship funds. Please bring your crafts, holiday items, gently used household items to Lunch Bunch, Holiday Party, or Dining Out, or contact Kathy Schofield or Suzanne Soules for pick up.

April 29<sup>th</sup> – Fashion Show at Howard Community College. Save your gently used purses, scarves, jewelry for our sale.

## Diversity Committee News

### Chairs: Marcia Posner and Jennifer Ingram

#### **Diversity Committee Presents: The History of Kwanzaa: Submitted by Marcia Posner**

During this time of year, many enjoy Christmas to celebrate the birth of Jesus; many celebrate Chanukah to remember the miracle of the oil that burned for eight days when only one day's amount had remained; still others celebrate Kwanzaa to .....??? How many of us really know what this holiday is all about? The Diversity Committee, that has chosen to learn about our African-American neighbors, decided we need to know more about this event that takes place December 26 through January 1.

Kwanzaa is not a religious celebration but one of the harvest; the name means "first fruits." (Reminds this writer of the Jewish holiday of Sukkot). In 1966, Professor Maulana Karenga founded this holiday to create unity among the African-Americans, which, he believed, was lacking after the riots in Watts in 1965. He created it by combining a variety of African harvest celebrations.

#### **The Swahili and African symbols:**

Kinara candle holder, Straw mat, Corn, Kwanzaa flag, Unity cup

#### **The principles upon which Professor Karenga founded Kwanzaa:**

Unity, Self-determination, Collective work and responsibility, Cooperative economics, Purpose, Creativity, Faith

Each candle of the kinara represents these principles and most families weave the importance of the African culture into the celebration; many wear traditional African garb during the lighting and feasting of fruits, nuts, vegetables—with corn being of special importance, as it represents children.

Although there is no religious significance to Kwanzaa, the symbol of the Christmas tree and other Christmas symbols are maintained in the home of the African-Americans. We are alike holding close to us our special traditions: Christmas, Chanukah, Kwanza bring together families to celebrate with colors of red, green (Christmas), red, green and black (Kwanzaa), blue and white (Chanukah); traditional foods; special symbols; and stories of the history of their people. We should learn about and appreciate each one. The folk singers Peter, Paul and Mary wrote and sang about the importance of diversity and unity, as they stated in one of many songs: *"Well, I've got a hammer/And I've got a bell/And I've got a song to sing/All over this land/...It's a song about love between/My brothers and my sisters/All over this land..."*

Whatever you celebrate, we wish you joy and good health in the new year. Maybe share your holiday traditions with others who celebrate different ones. (This writer has been to several Christmas celebrations in Christian and Catholic churches, decorated many Christmas trees, and has watched her two Catholic sons-in-law and daughter-in-law take part in the lighting of the Chanukah candles.) One day, all of us might see first-hand the celebration that is important to our African-American friends, Kwanzaa.

## **Advocacy/Public Policy News**

### **Co-VP's, Advocacy - Bev Fallik and Jennifer Ingram**

#### **Legislation: From Bev Fallik, Co-VP, Advocacy**

Nov 2016 Legislative Updates:

Joan researched the 2016 written testimony and discovered that there was only one opponent of the bill. Other support came from individuals, community colleges and the MD women's legislators' caucus.

Bev spoke extensively with the MLAW lawyer who is lobbyist for another group. She provided excellent advice regarding critical people for support (Hausner and Dumais) and recommended researching legislation Dumais sponsored in order to understand her priorities. The committee research (Joan, Marcia and Bev) of Dumais' bills is underway. We will be meeting w/ Ms. Lifson once that is completed. We will also be checking in again with Ms Hausner (the co-chair of the Family Law section of the MD Bar Assoc.). We are also further researching studies that support our position. Anita Rosen (State Policy VP) is going to speak w/ NOW to see if they will join our effort. Any help obtaining other organizations' support would be welcomed. We still have not received a response from Delegate Hill regarding the newly revised bill. Bev will be contacting her again. We may need to consider alternative sponsors from the Judiciary Committee.

## **Education Committee News**

### **VP – Suzanne Soules**

#### **2016-17 AAUW Howard County Education Programs**

The AAUW Howard County Education Committee promotes the AAUW Educational Mission by coordinating and developing opportunities to help girls and women learn about careers. We encourage a special emphasis in Science, Technology, Engineering or Math (STEM) because these are fields where women are under-represented. We do this through the following programs:

**Scholarships** are funded by the Branch's philanthropic efforts. AAUW HC awards three types of scholarships to women attending Howard Community College, regardless of their major: 1) one to help a minority or non-traditional woman student remain a student at HCC; 2) one to help a minority or non-traditional woman student matriculate to a four

year school; 3) several to student leaders to attend the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL). At this conference our recipients attend skill-building workshops, hear motivating speakers, and meet other scholarship recipients from around the county.

**Girl Power Career Fair** for middle and high school girls held annually in the spring at the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Lab (APL) in Laurel. Its purpose is to interest girls in studies and careers in STEM fields. AAUW HC members staff a table featuring a different theme each year such as “Growing Food on Mars.” APL hosts this free event with funding from other organizations and support from the APL and Math Engineering Science Achievement organization.

**Howard County STEM Festival** for K-12 students held annually in June at Howard Community College. AAUW HC staffs a table each year supporting the event’s goal to stimulate and encourage student interest and parental awareness of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM). Our table supports the objectives of the organizers to tap into ALL our inner STEM abilities and demonstrate how they are used in our everyday lives.

**Hammond HS DIAMONDS Scholars**, a student group that focuses on the personal development of minority girls, promotes academic achievement with the goal of earning acceptance to college, especially for a STEM-field major. AAUW HC has partnered with DIAMONDS for five years and is working with them to develop programs that support and expand their efforts.

On November 3<sup>rd</sup>, Suzanne Soules and Kathy Schofield attended the DIAMONDS induction ceremony, where Kathy was a guest speaker. She discussed the history of AAUW and how our Howard County branch contributes to educational opportunities for women. She talked about our scholarships and our participation in Girl Power and the STEM Festival.

## WEBSITE ESSENTIALS

### Submitted by: Bea Dane

You may not be aware of how much AAUW information is available to you. Did you know that you have access to National, State and local Howard County websites? I am including this info in each newsletter, as we continue to get new members and I want to make sure they all have this info.

Howard County: <http://howardcounty-md.aauw.net> Password for the members only section is: h0c0MD (those are zeroes and it is case sensitive). You can find the latest newsletter, past newsletters, member directory, bylaws, and Board members. Other sections are available to the public and could use some updating! If you are interested in helping out to update the website, please let me know.

Maryland State: <https://aauw-md.aauw.net> No password needed. Check it out! There is a nice write up and pictures from our recent State Convention.

National: <https://www.aauw.org/login> You can access the website without logging in, but to access membership only info, it is best to log in. If you have never created an account, it is very easy. Just click on the First Time User? Create Account as shown below. There is so much information available, but a search feature makes it easy to find specific resources.

Access My Account | Email | XFINITY Connect: Inbox | AAUW: Empowering Women

https://www.aauw.org/login

ISSUES WHAT WE DO MEMBERSHIP GET INVOLVED ABOUT AAUW

AAUW  
EMPOWERING WOMEN  
SINCE 1881

## LOGIN

Help

Log in to access the **Member Services Database**, **Leadership Directory**, manage your social media profiles, comment on articles and blogs, and sign up for digital **Outlook** subscription!

### Existing Users

(Already have both an ID and Password)

AAUW Member ID [Forgot Member ID?](#)

Password [Forgot/Change Password?](#)

Remember Me

Login

### First time user?

Create Account

### Join Us

You will be a part of a community empowers women and girls.

Become an AAUW member >

start | AAUW: Empowering ... | AAUW\_June-July16 ... | I.R.I.S. | 11:41 AM

## Membership Form

(Through 6/30/2017)

I would like to join/renew the AAUW Howard County Branch.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State and Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

College/University: \_\_\_\_\_

Degree(s) earned: \_\_\_\_\_

Major(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Career/ Job/ Retired: \_\_\_\_\_

Interests: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Referred By: \_\_\_\_\_

**Dues are \$72 for 2016-17**

(Branch - \$13; State - \$10; National - \$49).

\$46 is tax deductible.

**If you join at a designated public event, dues are \$47.50 if you have not been a member of AAUW for 2 years.**

Please send this form and check for dues (made out to AAUW – Howard County) to:  
Carol Phelps, Treasurer  
AAUW Howard County  
6680 Star Path



**2016-2017 AAUW Howard County Branch Officers**

*President: Bea Dane 410 299-8403*

*1st Vice President : position open*

*Financial Officer Carol Phelps 410-381-7076*

*Vice President, Programs: Dana Lowe 443-851-0741*

*Vice President, Philanthropy: position open*

*Co Vice Presidents, Social Caroline Tunison 301 497-8688 Gail*

*Burke 410-507-3477*

*Co Vice Presidents, Secretary: Connie Palmieri 410-489-5654*

*Jean Parr 410-381-6351 Donna Levinson 301-490-0294*

*Vice President, Education Suzanne Soules 410-872-8603*

*Co-Vice Presidents, Advocacy*

*Bev Fallik 301-596-6208 Jennifer Ingram 410-740-4276*

*Vice President, Membership Kathy Schofield 443-691-0131*

*Vice President, Communications: position open*

*Cultural Chair Laura Wilson 219-688-8261*

*Diversity Co Chairs: Marcia Posner; Jennifer Ingram*

*Fashion Show Co Chairs Phyllis McGlothlin 301-490-7328 Kathy*

*McCarthy 410-465-48-4831*

*Website Manager Position open*

*Adventures in Dining Carol Phelps 410-381-7076*

*AAUW Readers Doris Raytkwitch 301-776-1392 Lorraine Tropf*

*301-617-2785*

*Great Decisions Diane Roca 410-964-3523 Kathy Schofield 443-*

*691-0131*

*Hand Crafters and Movies Anne Tarantino 410-740-1285*

*Lunch Bunch Chair, Gail Rust 443-864-4189*

*Bridge Karen Tang 410 531-0619 Laura Wilson 219 688-8261*